

City Health Department

Mission. The locally funded component of the Health Department is responsible for animal control, licensing and inspection of swimming pools and the regulation of tobacco sales. The Environmental Health Division of the Community Health Department administers the functions.

Overview. The Animal Control Division is responsible for animal control field activities and for operation of the Wichita Animal Shelter. The Division protects the public by ensuring that dangerous or rabid animals are kept off the streets. The Division also protects animals in the community by enforcing laws and ordinances regarding animal cruelty and neglect.

Animal Control Officers respond to citizen calls regarding animal related problems. Officers pick up stray animals, issue summonses for leash law violations, remove dead animals, transport injured animals for emergency treatment, and investigate cruelty complaints in the City. In addition, officers investigate all animal bites in Sedgwick County and quarantine animals suspected of having rabies.

In 1998, more than 30,800 requests for animal control services were received in Wichita. The requests included 2,001 animal bite investigations, 752 animal cruelty investigations, and pickup of 717 injured animals.

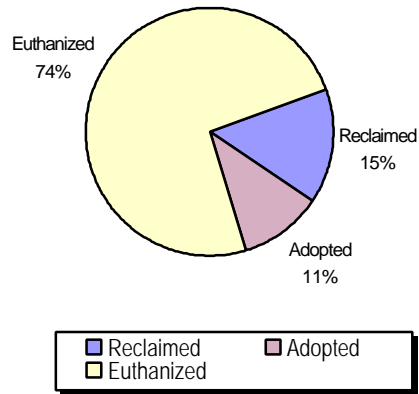


Holding cages for animals brought to the shelter.

The Wichita Animal Shelter is the holding facility for all animals received from the City of Wichita, including stray animals held for a three day redemption period, quarantined rabies suspect animals and unwanted pets turned over by the public. Shelter services are provided for animal control operations operated by Sedgwick County and for seven other area cities.

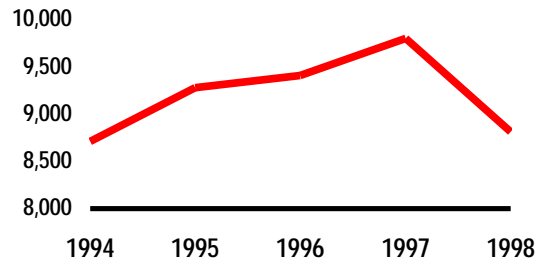
A pet adoption program is offered which requires a pre-payment for spaying and neutering. Responsible pet ownership is promoted with a public education program.

Animal Shelter Statistics - 1998



In 1998, the shelter held a total of 11,901 animals; 1,782 animals were reclaimed by owners, 1,303 were adopted into new homes and 8,816 were euthanized.

Number of Animals Euthanized



The City Health Department conducts inspections of swimming pools and spas in the City, enforcing health and safety standards including pH and chlorine levels, water clarity, and the presence of safety equipment. Staff made 1,167 swimming pool and spa inspections in 1998.

Tobacco vendors operating within the City of Wichita are periodically evaluated by the Health Department to ensure licensing requirements are met. Volunteers are used for undercover tobacco sales compliance checks. In 1998, the City had a 72.5 percent compliance rate compared to the statewide average of 65 percent. Health Department Staff also conduct a program to educate youth in the community about the negative consequences of smoking.

Seasonal personnel inspect properties for violation of the tall grass and weed ordinance, in addition to inspections of private lots for excessive trash. Property owners are notified of violations and non-compliant properties are referred to a private contractor for mowing. Mowing and cleanup costs

are billed to the property owner when possible.

Staff of the Food Section inspects and evaluates local food service establishments for cleanliness, sanitation, and conformity to applicable health and safety regulations. Establishments that pass inspection are given a certificate proclaiming their "A" rating, which can be displayed prominently in the establishment to let customers know that it is a safe and clean place to eat.

Finance and Operations. The seventeen year-old Animal Shelter is in need of extensive maintenance. An evaluation of the facility is being conducted to identify the cost and scope of needed repairs. An alternate option under consideration is relocation of the shelter facility.

The City Animal Control Division currently offers contracted field animal control services and animal shelter space to surrounding communities and Sedgwick County. Contracts are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure full cost recovery for the contracted services.

Financial Summary City Health Revenue Dollars			
	1998	1999	2000
Animal Control Revenue	594,116	593,600	604,100
Food Program Revenue	21,680	23,000	23,000
Tobacco Licenses	51,354	52,000	52,000
Spa/Pool/Hot Tubs	22,001	22,000	22,000
Solid Waste Haulers	23,420	24,500	24,500
Revenue - All Sources	712,571	715,100	725,600

City Health functions are supported by the General Fund with operational expenditures partially offset by program



A puppy and kitten hope for a new home.

revenue. Animal control revenue includes dog license fees, animal shelter vouchers, animal boarding fees, fees charged to veterinarians for pickup of dead animals, revenue from animal-related citations, and revenue from services provided to Sedgwick County and surrounding communities. The Food Section receives revenue through enrollment fees for food safety courses offered to area food service employees. The tobacco sales enforcement function is partially supported by the sale of tobacco sales licenses. Inspection fees from inspections of pools, spas and hot tubs also contribute to the Department's revenue stream. In addition, the Department receives income from the sale of solid waste collector/hauler licenses.

Selected Performance Measures			
	1998	1999	2000
Animals redeemed by owners or adopted	25.9%	35.0%	37.0%
Animals euthanized	74.1%	65.0%	63.0%

City Health Department Budget Summary					
	1998 Actual	1999 Adopted	1999 Revised	2000 Adopted	2001 Approved
Personal Services	729,403	846,140	777,490	832,460	889,010
Contractual Services	317,203	243,850	345,620	250,920	252,920
Commodities	31,228	40,180	40,180	39,010	38,280
Capital Outlay	14,740	12,900	12,900	11,250	2,750
Other	42,250	110,330	109,500	90,000	90,000
Total General Fund Expenditures	1,138,825	1,253,400	1,185,690	1,223,640	1,272,960
Position Summary					
Total full-time	20	20	20	20	20
Total part-time	9	9	9	9	9
Total FTE	22.75	22.75	22.75	22.75	22.75